

Sainte Genevieve Historic District

Sainte Genevieve

First settled in the mid-18th century on lower ground, where it was frequently flooded, Sainte Genevieve was relocated to its present site after the flood of 1785. The principal seat of government during Spanish control of western Louisiana territory, the town gradually declined after the Louisiana Purchase and the emergence of Saint Louis as the area's major port and commercial center. Sainte Genevieve has retained much of the atmosphere of its missionary, fur trading, mining, and military eras, and a number of its earliest buildings survive.